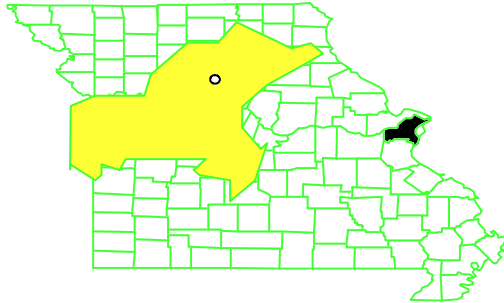


**ELLISVILLE SITE**  
**MISSOURI**  
**EPA ID# MOD980633010**



**EPA Region 7**  
**City: Near Ellisville, 20 miles west**  
**of downtown St. Louis**  
**County: St. Louis County**  
**Other Names: Rosalie Investment**  
**Co.,**  
**Mid-America Arena,**  
**Callahan Property,**  
**Bliss, Russell Site Bliss Ranch**

## **SITE DESCRIPTION**

The Ellisville Site consists of three nearby non-contiguous subsites: the Bliss property, the Callahan property, and the Rosalie property. Initial investigations at the site focused on these three properties. During the investigations, an additional four contaminated properties were discovered adjacent to the Bliss Property and were added to that subsite. During the 1960s and 1970s, Russell Bliss owned and operated the Bliss Waste Oil Company, a business engaged in the transportation and disposal of waste oil products, industrial wastes, and chemical wastes. These wastes were disposed of in pits, drums, and on the surface of properties around the company's headquarters in Ellisville. The Bliss property subsite is located in western St. Louis County and covers approximately 11 acres of land. Developed portions of the subsite include the Mid-America Arena and associated buildings and stables. The property is drained by Caulks Creek, which empties into a tributary to the Missouri River. Pits were dug on the property and were used for industrial waste disposal. Drums of wastes had been buried, and liquid wastes had been dumped on the ground. The Callahan property is an 8-acre tract of land located approximately 1 mile from Ellisville. Drummed liquid and solid wastes were disposed of on the property during the 1970s. The Callahan subsite is situated on a steep-walled gully that drains into a tributary to the Missouri River. The Rosalie property is a portion of an 85-acre tract of land. Drummed liquid and solid wastes were disposed of on approximately 4 acres of the subsite. A housing development now is located near the Rosalie subsite. Approximately 1,000 people live within a 1- mile radius of the subsites; 5,000 live within 3 miles. Residents rely on drinking water drawn from private wells and the public distribution system. Roughly 265 wells exist within 1 mile, and 789 wells are located within 3 miles of the sites.

### **Site Responsibility:**

This site is being addressed through Federal and State actions.

### **NPL LISTING HISTORY**

**Proposed Date:** 12/30/82

<b>Final Date:</b>	09/08/83
<b>Deleted Date:</b>	

## THREATS AND CONTAMINANTS

Soil was contaminated with dioxin and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) at the Bliss properties. Soils at the Callahan and Rosalie properties contained VOCs. Potential health risks existed through the airborne migration of contaminated fugitive dusts and the potential for leachate migrating into the groundwater.

## CLEANUP APPROACH

### Response Action Status

**Immediate Actions:** In 1981, the State removed, covered, and overpacked drums; took samples; and staged the drums from the Callahan subsite. Workers posted signs and the State maintained 24-hour security at the site. Excavation activities revealed up to 1,000 drums buried on the site. In early 1982, EPA emergency workers performed the following activities: posted additional warning signs; drained and sealed the farm pond; built runoff control and leachate interception trenches; excavated and overpacked buried drums; sampled and sorted drums; built an on-site storage area; and removed and disposed of contaminated soil. In late 1984, drums and other wastes from the Callahan subsite were delivered to an incinerator in Illinois for disposal. In 1990, the EPA steam-cleaned some drum fragments on the site and constructed a fence surrounding the Bliss subsite to restrict site access. In 1992, the EPA performed maintenance on the synthetic cover in the creek bank at the Bliss subsite.

**Callahan and Rosalie Subsites:** The EPA selected a remedy for the Callahan and Rosalie properties in 1985. The Callahan property cleanup remedy includes: controlling erosion and slippage of the fill area where drums had been excavated from 1980 to 1981 and removing what remained of that cleanup; removing and disposing of the plastic cover and hold-down blocks from the fill area; regrading the fill to a more stable slope, covering it with a compacted soil layer, and reseedling; and removing and salvaging fences and gravel from the former drum-storage areas. The Rosalie subsite cleanup remedy includes: excavating contaminated soil from two locations and removing it to an EPA-approved hazardous waste facility; placing debris in drums; excavating and overpacking buried drums and sampling and testing their contents; disposing of drums at an EPA-approved disposal facility; testing soil to verify the effectiveness of the cleanup; and backfilling excavated areas with clean soil and reseedling disturbed areas. The potentially responsible parties, under State supervision, conducted and completed the cleanup activities at the Rosalie property. The design of the cleanup remedy for the Callahan property subsite was completed in early 1991, and cleanup activities were certified complete by the site owner in 1997.

Bliss and Adjacent Properties: During the investigation of the Bliss property subsite, contamination was discovered on four neighboring parcels: the Dubman and Weingart property, Primm property, Wade and Mercantile Trust Company property, and the Russell, Evelyn, and Jerry Bliss property. The EPA selected a remedy for these properties in 1986. The first part of the cleanup focuses on dioxin-contaminated soils; the second includes excavation and off-site disposal of buried drums and materials contaminated with chemicals other than dioxin. The Bliss/contiguous properties cleanup remedy for soils, selected in 1986, includes: excavating dioxin-contaminated soils and placing them in containers; storing the containers of waste temporarily in a metal building on the site; and maintaining security, controlling surface drainage at the site, and sampling the groundwater. The drum and other cleanup remedies include: excavating, sampling, and overpacking buried drums; excavating hazardous wastes and contaminated soils and materials; taking drums and waste mixtures suitable for land disposal to an appropriate EPA-approved facility; incinerating drums and waste mixtures unsuitable for land disposal off site at an EPA-approved facility; and disposing of non-hazardous material and debris at a permitted sanitary landfill. For both components of this remedy, site restoration activities will include backfilling, regrading, and seeding, where needed. In late 1991, the EPA issued an amended cleanup remedy for the dioxin-contaminated materials at the Bliss subsite. Under this remedy, interim storage of dioxin-contaminated material was eliminated. Instead, these materials were excavated and transported directly to the nearby Times Beach site, where they were destroyed by thermal treatment. Excavation and off-site management of contaminants at the Bliss subsite was performed from January 25, 1996, through August 26, 1996. Groundwater monitoring continues in accordance with the Record of Decision (ROD).

#### Site Facts:

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS



All contaminated materials have been removed from the Rosalie subsite, Callahan subsite, and Bliss subsite, thereby eliminating the potential for direct contact with contaminated soils.

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## SITE REPOSITORY



Superfund Records Center  
901 N. 5th St.  
Kansas City, KS 66101  
Mail Stop SUPR  
(913)551-4038

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## REGIONAL CONTACTS

**SITE MANAGER:**

Bob Feild

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(913) 551-7697

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

**COORDINATOR:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTER:**

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**

**STATE CONTACT:**

**PHONE NUMBER:**

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## MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

**STATE:**

MO

0708

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:**

02

**EPA ORGANIZATION:**

SFD-MOKS/SUPR

## MODIFICATIONS